

The House of Commons

1704

Ordered by the Commons  
 that in Parliament there  
 be printed a number of the  
 names of persons for the service of  
 the House, and the Knights, Cit-  
 izens and Burgesses, and Barons of  
 the Cinque Ports that live for the  
 several Counties, Cities, Burroughs  
 and ports, are required to send Co-  
 pies thereof, to be published and  
 deposited in the several and re-  
 spective places for which they serve

At the City of London, the 10th of May, 1704.



*Die Veneris, xi. Februarii,*

1 6 4 7.

**O**Rdered by the Commons assembled in Parliament, That a competent number of this Declaration be printed for the service of the House ; And the Knights, Citizens and Burgessees, and Barons of the Cinque-ports that serve for the severall Counties, Cities, Burroughs and ports, are required to send Copies thereof, to be published and dispersed in the severall and respective places for which they serve.

*H. Elsynge, Cler. Parl. D. Com.*



Wing C 2559 A 234

# DECLARATION OF THE COMMONS OF

E N G L A N D

In PARLIAMENT assembled;

EXPRESSING

Their Reasons and Grounds of  
passing the late Resolutions touching

*No farther Address or Application to be made*

TO THE

KING.

Die Veneris, 11. Februarii, 1647.

Ordered by the Commons assembled in Parliament,  
That this Declaration be forthwith printed and  
published: H: Elsyng, Cler. Parl. D. Com.

London, Printed for Edward Husband, Printer to the  
Honorable House of Commons, Feb. 15. 1647.

RE DAY 12.1647.69 x

COMMONS

THE HOUSE OF COMMONS  
IN PARLIAMENT ASSEMBLED  
DO PASSED THE BILL  
INTITLED AN ACT  
TO AMEND THE  
LAW RELATIVE TO  
THE REGISTRATION  
OF VOTERS

KING

BY APPOINTMENT TO HIS MAJESTY  
THE SECRETARY OF STATE  
FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF  
THE HOUSE OF COMMONS

LONDON: PRINTED BY  
HARRISON AND SONS, ST. MARTIN'S LANE.  
1884.



A  
DECLARATION  
OF THE  
COMMONS

Assembled in Parliament,

Expressing the Reasons of these  
ensuing

RESOLUTIONS.

Resolved upon the Question by the  
Lords and Commons in Parliament  
assembled,

**T***hat they do Declare, That they  
will make no further Addresses  
or Applications to the King.*

Re-

Resolved upon the Question by the  
Lords and Commons,

**T**hat no Application or Addresse  
be made to the King by any per-  
son whatsoever, without the leave of  
both Houses.

Resolved upon the Question by the  
Lords and Commons,

**T**hat the person or persons that  
shall make breach of this Order,  
shall incur the Penalties of High  
Treason.

Resolved upon the Question by the  
Lords and Commons,

**T**hat they do Declare, That they  
will receive no more any Mes-  
sage from the King; and do enjoin,  
That no person whatsoever do presume  
to receive or bring any Message from  
the

*the King to both or either of the Houses of Parliament, or to any other person.*

**H**OW fruitless our former Addresses have been to the King, is so well known to the world, that it may be expected we should now Declare, Why we made the last, or so many before, rather then why we are resolved to make no more.

We cannot acknowledge any great Confidence that our words could have been more perswasive with Him, then Sighs and Groans, the Tears and crying Blood (an heavy Cry ! ) the Blood of Fathers, Brothers and Children at once, the Blood of many Hundred thousand Free-born Subjects in Three great Kingdoms, which Cruelty it self could not but pity to destroy.

We must not be so unthankful to God, as to forget we never were forced to any Treaty ; and yet we have no less then Seven times made such Applications to the King, and tendered such Propositions, that might occasion the world to judge, We have not onely yielded up our Wills and Affections, but our Reason also and Judgement, for obtaining any true Peace or good Accomodation.

But it never yet pleased the King to accept of any Tender fit for us to make, nor yet to offer any fit for us to receive.

It is very well known, That the Propositions sent to the King at *Oxford*, and Treated on at *Uxbridge*, were agreed by the Parliaments of both Kingdoms, not onely as Just, but Necessary also for the very Being of these Kingdoms in a settled Peace and Safety.

And although the Kings persisting in his wonted ways and Denyals, might have caused us to improve the Advantage of that great Success (which it pleased God to afford us) Yet when His Armies were all broken, so that in Disguise He fled from *Oxford* to the Scots at *Newark*, and from thence went to *Newcastle*; and that *Oxford*, and almost all His Garisons were taken, We tendered at *Newcastle* Propositions, the same in effect which had been presented before in the midst of all His Strength and Forces.

And notwithstanding this Change of His Condition, and Denyal of those Propositions, after He was left to the Commissioners of Parliament, and our Brethren of *Scotland* quietly departed home; after all His Garisons taken, and no visible Force in the whole Kingdom appearing for Him, the King being at the sole Dispose of the Parliament without Dispute; yet even then the same Propositions were again presented to Him at *Hampden Court*.

In all which Addresses the Commissioners of *Scotland* agreed with us, and joyned with our Commissioners in attending the King.

The King not granting our Propositions, but  
 still

still giving such strange unexpected and conditional Answers or Denyals; it might justly have made us consider some other course for settling the Kingdom in Peace and Safety, without any further Application; which was also so far agreed by our Brethren of *Scotland* (at their leaving *New-castle*) that their Commissioners Declared, in case the King consented not to the Propositions, Yet they would maintain the Treaties and Union made between the Kingdoms.

But so desirous were we of His Concurrence in the Settlement of the Kingdoms Peace, that we yet again resolved upon another Address; and did so qualifie the said Propositions, that, where it might stand with the Publique Safety, His wonted Scruples and Objections were prevented or removed.

And although we could not forget how dangerous and void of Success our former Treaties had been, and that a Personal Treaty had been Declared by both Houses and the Commissioners of *Scotland* to be unsafe, without Security and Satisfaction first given; yet we also yielded to that, on condition the King would Sign but Four Bills, which we judged not only Just and Honorable, but Necessary even for present Peace and Safety during such a Treaty.

We have cause enough to remember, That He sometimes denied to receive our humble Petitions for Peace; and when we desired Him to appoint some place for a Committee of both  
B Houses

Houses to attend Him with Propositions for Peace, He named *Windsor*; promising to abide thereabouts till they came unto Him: But presently marched forward (that very night) so near *London*, that He had almost surpris'd it, while He had so engaged Himself for a Treaty, had not some few of our Foot at *Brainford*, with invincible Courage, expos'd themselves to apparent Death, Till His Army was forced to retire in Fear and Shame, with the Guilt of most Inhumane and Barbarous Cruelties committed at *Brainford*, to assure *London* what it must have expected, had not God prevented those Bloody Designs.

And we well remember, That the King once sent us a specious Message of renewing a Treaty, when at the same time His Messenger was instructed how to manage that Bloody Massacre in *London*, which was then Designed by vertue of the Kings Commission, since published.

And about the time of the Treaty at *Uxbridge*, He excused Himself to the Queen by a Letter under His own Hand, as forced to that Treaty by the mutinous Motions of His Mungrel Parliament at *Oxford*; and that He could not finde any two of them of His minde, else He would not have acknowledged us for the Parliament of *England*; which yet He did with a Protestation, entered into the Councel-Books, That His calling us so, did not make us a Parliament.

All which was but small Encouragements,  
again

again to make our selves His Sport or Scorn by any other Treaty; yet we now yielded to this also.

But notwithstanding this and all former Tenders, We have now received such a Denyal, that we are in dispair of any good by Addresses to the King, neither must we be so injurious to the People, in further delaying their Settlement, as any more to press his Consent to these or any other Propositions.

Nor can we see why it should be expected a new Engagement could prevail on Him, or oblige Him more strongly to the Kingdom, then the Solemn Oath of His Coronation, and the several other Vows, Protestations and Imprecations so frequently by Him broken, during His whole Reign, and so often renewed before God and the whole World.

We may be the more justified herein by those that know what passed between the King and our Brethren the Scots, when those Articles were agreed and confirmed in the first Pacification not long before these Wars; which, as soon as their backs were turned, and their Armies out of sight, were disavowed again by the King, and by His Command publickly burnt at *London* by the Hands of the Hangman.

Which yet might have been forgotten, had not a continued track of Breach of Trust in the Three Kingdoms, since he wore the Crown, made us (though unwilling) to remember it.

We take no pleasure to repeat our own Miseries, or others Mischief, if it might be hidden or forgotten; But we are now forced to speak what hath long been suffered in too much silence.

Himself in publique Speeches and Declarations, hath laid a fit foundation for all Tyranny, by this most Destructive Maxime or Principle, which He saith he must avow, *That He oweth an Accompt of His Actions to none, but God alone; and, That the Houses of Parliament, joynt or seperate, have no Power either to make or Declare any Law.*

The Private Articles agreed, in order to the Match with *Spain*, and those other Private Articles upon the *French* Marriage, so prejudicial to the Peace, Safety, Laws, Religion here established, and the continued Correspondence which hath since been carried on with *Rome*, are so evident as cannot be denied.

We cannot but call to minde the Proceedings and Passages of the Parliament held in the second year of this Kings Reign, concerning the Death of His Royal Father.

The Tenth of *May*, 1626. the House of Commons charged the Duke of *Buckingham*, among other things, in these words; (*viz.*)

**W** Hereas the sworn Physitians of our late Sovereign Lord, King James of blessed Memory, attending on His Majesty in the moneth  
of

of March, in the Two and twentieth of His most Glorious Raign, in the times of His sickness, being an Ague, Did in due and necessary care of and for the recovery of His health, and preservation of His person, upon and after several mature Consultations in that behalf had and holden at several times in the same moneth resolve, and gave directions, That nothing should be applyed or given unto His Highness, by way of Phisick or Dyer, during His said sickness, but by and upon their general Advice and Consents: And after good deliberation thereof first had, more especially by their like care and upon like Consultations, Did justly resolve and publikely give warning, to and for all the Gentlemen and other Servants and Officers of His said late Majesties Bedchamber, That no Meat or Drink whatsoever should be given unto Him within two or three hours next before the usual time of and for the coming of His Fit in the said Ague, nor during the continuance thereof, nor afterwards until His cold Fit were past. The said Duke of Buckingham being a sworn Servant of His late Majesty, of  
and

and in His Majesties said Bedchamber, contrary to his duty, and the tender respect which he ought to have had of His Majesties most Sacred Person; and after the Consultations, Resolutions, Directions and Warning aforesaid, Did nevertheless, without any sufficient warrant in that behalf, unduly cause and procure certain Plaisters, and a certain Drink or Potion to be provided for the use of His said Majesty, without the direction or privy of His said late Majesties Physicians, not prepared by any of His Majesties sworn Apothecaries or Chyrurgeons, but compounded of several Ingredients to them unknown; Notwithstanding the same plaister, or some plaister like thereunto having been formerly administred unto His said Majesty, did procure such ill effects, as that some of the said sworn Physicians did altogether disallow thereof, and utterly refused to meddle any further with His said Majesty until those plaisters were removed, as being prejudicial to the health of His Majesty. Yet nevertheless, the same plaister, as also a Drink or potion, was provided by him the said Duke, which he the said Duke, by colour of some insufficient and slight pretences,

pretences, did upon Monday the One and twentieth day of March, in the Two and twentieth year aforesaid, when His Majesty (by the judgement of His said Physicians) was in the declination of His Disease, cause and procure the said plaister to be applyed to the Brest and Wrists of His said late Majesty; and then also, at and in His Majesties Fit of his said Ague the same Monday, and at several times, within two hours before the coming of the same Fit, and before His Majesties then cold Fit was passed, did deliver and cause to be delivered, several quantities of the said drink or potion to his late Majesty; who thereupon, at the same times, within the seasons in that behalf prohibited by his Majesties physicians as aforesaid, did by the means and procurement of the said Duke, drink, and take divers quantities of the said drink or potion, applied and given unto, and taken and received by his said Majesty as aforesaid, Great distempers, and divers ill symptomes appeared upon his said Majesty; insomuch that the said physicians finding his Majesty the next morning much worse in the estate of his health, and holding a Consultation

sultation thereabout, did by joynt consent send unto the said Duke, praying him not to adventure to minister unto his Majesty any more physick without their Allowance and Approbation; And his said Majesty himself, finding himself much diseased and afflicted with pain and sickness after his then Fit, when by the course of his Disease he expected intermission and ease, did attribute the cause of such his trouble unto the said plaister and drink which the said Duke had so given, and caused to be administered unto him; which said adventurous act, by a person obliged in duty and thankfulness done to the person of so great a King, after so ill success of the like formerly administred, contrary to such directions as aforesaid, and accompanied with so unhappy an event, to the great grief and discomfort of all his Majesties Subjects in general, is an Offence and Misdemeanor of so high a nature, as may justly be called, and is by the said Commons deemed to be, An act of transcendent presumption, and of dangerous consequence.

And delivered it at a Conference to the Lords.

After

After which the King came into the Lords House and took notice of that Charge, and told them he could be a witness to clear him in every one of them; unto which Charge, no answer came in untill the eighth of June following, and the tenth day after it was ordered by the House of Peers to be communicated to the House of Commons: But while the House was preparing to send up their proofes upon which they declared, that they doubted not but to have judgement against the said Duke, the King expressed a suddain purpose to dissolve the Parliament, and although the House of Peers petitioned for its continuance, expressing their great and universall sorrow for his intentions to dissolve it, yet, notwithstanding all this the said Parliament was dissolved the fifteenth day of the same June.

At the same time also during the Parliament, Sir *Dudley Diggs* and Sir *John Elliot*, who specially managed that Conference and Examinations, were committed close prisoners to the Tower within two dayes after the said Charge, by warrant under the Kings own hand.

And Messages and interruptions were constantly sent from the King to the Houses while they had the said Charge in Agitation, and the Parliament being dissolved before Justice could be done, there never was any legal enquiry made at any time since, concerning the death of the said King.

We leave the world now to judge where the guilt of this remains.

We can fully shew how *Rochel* was by him betrayed, and thereby a fatal blowe given to the Protestant Cause in *France* : how also he lent divers of the Navie Royal, and other Merchant-ships, to the French King, to be employed against those whom he was engaged to have assisted. And when some of the Commanders and others in those ships, were so much English as to dispute those Orders ; we can shew the King's Letter under his own hand to Captain *Penington*, to put them into the service of the French King, or to sink them in case of refusal.

We cannot forget the designs to enslave us by the German-Horse (that we say nothing of the late Spanish Fleet, with a great Army therein, brought into the Downs, 1639.) and to grinde us by enforced Loans, Privie-Seals, Coat and Conduct-money, enlarging of Forests, inclosing of Commons, ingrossing of Gun-powder, with innumerable Patents and Monopolies of Malt, Salt, Sea-cole, Soap, Leather, Wine, Sugar, Allom, Farthings, Pins, Tobacco, and almost all things else ; together with that one compendium of all Oppression and Slavery, called Ship-money.

The torture of our bodies, by most cruel whippings, flitting of noses, cutting off ears, branding of cheeks, Racks and Pillories, with close Imprisonment at pleasure, might be the sooner forgotten, had not our souls been also lorded over, led captive into Superstition and Idolatry, triumphed on by Oathes *ex Officio*, Excommunications,

ons, Ceremonious Articles, new Canons, Canon  
Oathes, &c.

One thing more was found, to make us worse  
then Slaves, in that we might not hope for liberty :  
The very name of Parliament became so odious  
at the Court, that if in twelve yeers time there was  
so much as one summoned, it served but to shew  
the lawlesse power of those that could not be con-  
tent onely to dissolve it at pleasure, but we must  
be forbidden by Proclamation to speak or hope  
for another Parliament : And at such dissoluti-  
ons, there was no Priviledge strong enough to se-  
cure the closets, cabinets, pockers and persons of  
those that in duty and conscience did but vote or  
act as men above meer slaves: this was fault enough  
for close imprisonment and death, for that hath  
also followed.

Nor was it enough thus to enslave one King-  
dom, but the same Projectors who had so en-  
thrall'd *England*, must contrive also to reduce *Ire-*  
*land*, and conform *Scotland*, that so the mingling of  
neighbour-tears, might by sympathy increase each  
others wo.

*Scotland* was to be the first Scene, where a new  
Lyturgie, with new Canons, are to make the Pro-  
logue to the following Act.

This not succeeding as was hoped, an Ar-  
my must be raised to force compliyance ; but  
by the mediation of the English Lords, a Pa-  
cification is concluded ; and it held till the  
Kings returne to Court made him forget and

disavow it : but the burnt Articles left ashes enough to beget a new flame.

There wanted but a form of Law to make all just : For this, and for supply ; not for advice, a Parliament is ventured on ; yet with Proviso, that it should not hurt, although it would not help ; and not complying (as was hoped to assist that Warre against the Scots) was crime enough to merit dissolution with a false and scandalous Declaration in the King's Name.

The Parliament being dissolved, the King took from his subjects by power what he could not otherwise obtain.

We need not tell the world how in the midst of all our miseries the Scots (our Brethren) entered with a powerfull Army, marching on as friends, till they were forced to make their passage over *Tine*.

It was then thought necessary by the King to summon this present Parliament ; in which wee did proceede with ease so long as there was but any hope wee would comply with him against the Scots, and give assistance to that Warre.

But he quickly found it vain to hope to be supplied by us against the Scots ; And when we began to consider how we came to be again involved in a new Warre (notwithstanding the late Pacification) we saw it impossible to quash those pernicious counsels at the present, or to prevent them

(21)

them for the future without questioning their Authors : At this the King discovered himself so strongly and passionately affected to such malignant Counsellours and their counsels, that he would sooner desert or force this Parliament and Kingdom, then alter his course, and deliver up his wicked Counsellors to Law and Justice.

By this time the Queens pious designe (as they termed it) to advance Popery was almost ready for the birth, being helped much by a Popish Fast, enjoyned weekly by the Popes Nuncio, and by Letters from Secretary *Windebarck*, who durst not abide examination, but after he was questioned by the House of Commons, got a passe from the King to go beyond sea.

What was done abroad will here after appear, although the King made light of all our intelligence from forraign parts ; yet he could not so well avoid or deny the Commissions given at Court to Popish Agents for private levies, or that the Papists began to rise and arme themselves in the North-west of *England* and *Wales*, till they were suppressed ; or that there were Regiments raising and lifting in *London* and parts adjoyning, under pretence of souldiers for *Portugal* ; or that some of these came to seize & possesse themselves of the Tower, and the Lieutenant threatned for refusing them ; all which he knew might be sufficiently proved.

To the like pious designe wee may referre the great Caball for bringing up the Northern Army to over awe the Parliament, which the King did so often

often and solemnly disavow, as nothing but loose discourses of a modest Petition, which also vanished two or three months (he saith) before we knew it.

But he now knoweth we can prove the chief part of that Cabal came from himself to the main Actors, and that some of them did dissuade him from his way, because it was so sharp and high, exceeding the limits of Honour and Law : And yet their propositions which were the lower way, were much above the size of Petitions, as they are already published in their own Confessions. And it is very strange, Mr. Percy, Sir John Suckling, and Mr. Germin (sent away by the King's special warrant) should flee beyond Sea onely upon discovery of a modest Petition.

But notwithstanding any dissuasions, yet the King persisted in his way ; so that after this, there was appointed a Meeting of Officers at Burrough-bridge, and Propositions made, with private Instructions brought from the King, by some that told them they were unwise to shew their teeth, except they would bite ; and that the King would pawn his Jewels for them, would they be faithful to him, and if they marched forward, they should be met by the Prince and the Earl of Newcastle with a good body of Horse ; and that the French also would be ready to assist them.

This was in April, and we had notice of this in the beginning of May, when also there was a designe for some French to have seized on Portsmouth, whether the Queen was then going : but the Ports were better secured, by a special Committee.

So far was it also from vanishing divers months before our notice, that some of those Cabalists, after examination by us, were again attempted by the King, and some of them sent again to the Army with new instructions and directions signed by the King himself, as most clearly appeareth by comparing the Journalls of May 1641 with the months following; together with the time specified in the confessions of Sir *Jacob Astley*, Sir *John Conyers*, Colonell *Legg* and others, already published.

And when there was yet demur among the chief Officers, there went another agent from Court, to quicken them, and treat of some directions signed by the King: But he was to go farther, the Scots Army being then at New-Castle.

What offers were made to them of the plunder of London, if they would advance, or of four Northerne Counties, with three hundred thousand pounds or Jewels of great value, but to stand Neuters in that designe, is already declared by some who may better know the Propositions made by *Oneal* (who

(who brake prison here) Sir *Iohn Hinder-son* and others with letters of credence from the King; After that he was so resolute to go into Scotland, that he could not be perswaded by our petitions to deferre that journey, and though in the year 1641 he was not pleased to leave such a Commission as the Parliament desired of him, yet was he pleased before in the yeare 1639 to intrust Secretary *Windebanke* a knowne favourer of papists, with blanke sheets both of parchment and paper signed with his signe Mannuall, which were employed by him for disposing great commands by land and Sea.

It is well known what letters the King sent into Ireland by the Lord *Dillon* immediately before the Rebellion, and where the great Seale of Scotland was, and in whose hands when that commission was sealed at Edenburgh to the Irish Rebels, who dispersed Copies thereof in Ireland, with letters or Proclamations, and we have a copy thereof attested by Oath, with depositions also of those who have seen it under the Seal.

Which

Which Commission was promised (as some of the chiefeſt Rebels confeſſed) to the Irith Committee at *London*, for the moſt part Pa-piſts, (which was thought a good *Omen*) and ſince moſt active Rebels, upon whoſe private mediation the King gave away more then Five Counties, ſaying, That hee expected they ſhould recompence him ſome other way; and, That hee would willingly grant all their deſires, but hee was oppreſſed by the Parliament in *England*, of whom he wiſhed that he could be revenged.

It hath formerly been Declared, how wee deſired and preſſed the King to diſband that Irith Popiſh Army, which (as was cleared at the Earl of *Straffords* tryall) was raiſed to reduce the Kingdomes: But ſometimes hee would give no answer at all, and ſometimes did plainly tell us, Hee could not diſband it for Reaſons beſt known to himſelf: Sometimes the *Scots* muſt firſt diſband; and then there was a new pretence of divers Regiments promiſed to *Spaine*, for which the King was engaged, and could not goe back.

Which wee now wonder not at, for by the Confeſſion of *Mac Carte* and *Macguire*, with others, it is cleare, that this pretence of men for the King of *Spaines* ſervice, was but a colour to keep ſome in Armes for a foundation of that Rebellion; and that ſome of the Committee comming from *London*, contrived this Plot for defence of the King, who was then (they ſaid) ſo much injured in *England* and *Scotland*.

And the first clause of that Oath enjoyned by the Generall Councell of Rebells, was, To beare true Faith and Allegiance to King *Charles*, and by all meanes to maintain his Royall Prerogative against the Puritans in the Parliament of *England*.

And although we Declared to the King, That they styled themselves the Kings or *Queenes* Army, yet we could not obtain a Proclamation against them in divers Moneths, and then also but Forty Copies might be Printed, and expresse Order given, That none should bee published till his further directions, as appeareth under his own Secretaries hand.

Which might very well stand with the Letters from Court to the Lord *Muskery* (a great Rebelle in *Munster*) who was assured, his Majesty was well pleased with what he did, and would in time give him thanks for it, although for the present it did not then stand with the convenience of the Kings affaires, to give him publick countenance; and this was afterwards made good by the King, who in one of the Letters taken at *Naseby*, commandeth the Earle of *Ormond* to give particular thanks to the said *Muskery* and *Plunkett*.

Wee may yet remember how the Earle of *Leicester* was delayed and detained by the King (beyond all pretence) from going against the Rebells.

How also the King refused a Commission (often asked by both Houses) for the Lord *Brookes* and Lord *Wharton*, when at severall times there were  
large

(27)

large Provisions made for relief of *Munster*, and other Parts so much distressed, that *Linerick* was wholly lost.

But when the Rebels wanted Commanders at their very beginning, we have long since named divers Papists and Persons of quality that by the Kings speciall Warrants after the Ports were shut by both Houses of Parliament, passed hence, and headed the said Rebels.

And wee likewise named Commanders and Officers, whom the King called off from their Trust against the Rebels, and Ships from their Guards at Sea, that so the Rebels might be supplied with Forraign aides, besides all the Armes and Ammunition they had from the Kings Magazines there, and from hence also, by the Earle of *Antrim*, Lord *Aboin* and others from the Queene, although the Councell of *Ireland* desiring some Peeces of Battery from hence for the poore Protestants there, could not obtaine them from the King: But some of our Ships sent to relieve them, were seized by his men of Warre (as the Cloathes and other Provisions by Land) and sold or exchanged for Armes and Ammunition for the King: and the Rebels gave Letters of Mart for taking the Parliaments Ships, but freed the Kings as their very good friends.

Let the World now judge, how much reason wee had to beleive the Rebels, when they did so often sweare they did nothing without good Authority and Commission from the King;

so that Sir *Phelim Oneale* would not bee perswaded, Generall *Lesley* had any Authority from the King against the Rebels.

Divers Moneths also before it began; There was information given upon Oath, to the Arch-Bishop and others of the Kings Councell, That there was a great designe among the Papists for a Generall Massacre of all the Protestants in *Ireland* and *England* also, and that a great Royall Person had a hand in it, but it was to bee managed, by direction from the Pope.

And besides the Kings Letters to the Pope, when hee was in *Spaine*, and others long since his return, on the behalf of the Duke of *Lorraine* (which must bee requited by the said Duke with a Forraign Army to invade *England* upon the Kings designe) It is clear, that some Moneths before the Irish Rebellion, the King had an Agent in *Rome*, as by divers of his owne Secretaries papers appeareth.

And that the same designes were laid for *England* also at the same time, if we might not believe the confession of the Queene Mothers Servant, (attested upon Oath) that there were many thousands appointed to cut the Protestants throats in this Kingdome also, when the King went to *Scotland*: yet we may remember, it was confessed by some of the Principall Rebels, that their Popish Committee here with the King, had communicated that designe to many Papists in *England*, by whose advice, though some things were altered,

altered, yet it was generally concluded that about the same time there should be the like proceedings of the Papists here; insomuch that when *Charles Mont* was seized in *Ireland*, *Sir Phelim O'neale* and other great Rebels did with much confidence affirme the Tower was also seized at *London* and the Arch-Bishop released by their party here, where they said, there was as much blood running as in *Ireland*.

And it is very well known that upon the Kings returne from *Scotland*, besides the unusuall preparations of Ammunition and Armes, with new Guards within and about *Whitehall*: and besides the great quantity of Fire-workes found and taken in Papists houses, the Tower was also filled with new Guards, many Cannoneeres, Granadoes, and all sorts of Fire-workes, Morters, with great peeces of Battery, ready prepared and mounted against the City. *Sir William Balfour*, (who was formerly threatened) for refusing the new Guards while the Earl of *Strafford* lived, was now displaced, and such Officers placed by the King, as were not onely suspected by us, but the whole City, (who durst not abide in their own houses) as by their severall Petitions is manifest.

From this time the track of open force against this Parliament and Kingdome did appear more visible.

The charge of Treason against some of both Houses, and that unparallelled Act of violence by the Kings comming so attended to the House of Com-

mons, (after he had discharged our Guards, deny-  
ing us any, but what might restrain or overawe us)  
was but the Prologue to a bloody Tragedy, had  
not the Parliament, and good affections of the Ci-  
ty interrupted that design, and caused the Kings  
new Guards (already listed and moulded under  
Colonels and other Officers) to withdraw a little  
to another service.

Neither would the Countrey more comply with  
these designs, although they were attempted with  
unusuall arguments, and armed Troops in warlike  
manner to compel them; which succeeded yet so ill,  
that the Lord *Digby* durst not abide the tryall, but  
was sent away upon a speciall Errand by the Kings  
own Warrant.

What his Errand was beyond Sea, we may well  
conclude from the List of Arms and Ammunition  
(for which we can produce the Kings own Hand)  
taken amongst his Papers, and printed with his  
Letters to the Queen, at her first landing in *Hol-  
land*.

What advice hee gave for the Kings retiring to  
some safe place, and declare himself, and how the  
King followed it, it is known well enough.

But before the Kings settling at *York*, the notice  
we had of his Commissions to the Earl of *New-  
castle*, and Colonell *Legg*, for attempting *Newca-  
stle* and *Hull*, may justly occasion us to provide for  
their security, especially when wee had certain  
intelligence from the Low-Countreys of Forraign  
Forces from *Denmark*, to come in about *Hull*,  
whither

(31)  
whither also came with the Lord *Digby*, divers  
Commanders, with much Ammunition and Arms  
from other Forraign Parts.

249  
And had not the *Swedes* at that time invaded  
part of the King of *Denmarks* Dominions, we had  
had reason enough to expect a storm that way, to  
have fallen also on *Hull*, where was then a great  
Magazine; and before we ever asked the King to  
remove it, wee represented to him, that besides all  
other intelligence of former Negotiations; Wee  
had good notice of a Fleet preparing in *Denmark*,  
and that one of the Lord *Digbies* servants had  
solicited a Mariner (or Pilot) to conduct it into  
*Hull*.

And before that time, the King had dispatched  
an Agent into *Denmark*, with Letters of Credit,  
complaining against the Parliament as unjustly  
fixed on the destruction of one man, (the Earl of  
*Strafford*, then living) but he was resolved to take  
another course, and therefore desired Ayde.

And there came such an answer, that among the  
large offers made to the Scots before the Kings go-  
ing into *Scotland*. They were told, the King was  
assured of Horses and Mony from *Denmark*. And  
by an intercepted Letter from the *Hague* to Secre-  
tary *Nicholas*, long since published, wee found, that  
(besides many Armes and Cannon then provided  
in *Holland*) There were also comming from *Den-  
marke* Ships, with Ten thousand Armes for Foot,  
and Fifteen hundred Horse for the Kings use, And  
that *Cockran* very handsomely evaded, that which  
was like to have frustrated all their expectations  
from thence.

And

And in *Ceckrans* latter Instructions (for there had been others before into *Denmark*) long since printed; The King saith, We were then beginning to make head against him, and were then leavying Forces, And therefore he presseth for Men, Mony, Armes, and Ships, from *Denmarke* for which also he useth many Arguments, and among others one in these words;

*That in pursuance of their great design of extirpating the Royall Blood and Monarchy of England, they have endeavored likewise to lay a great blemish upon his Royall Family, endeavoring to Illegitimate all derived from his Sister, at once to cut off the Interest and pretensions of the whole Race; which their most detestable and scandalous Design they have pursued, examining witnesses, and conferring circumstances and times to colour their pretensions in so great a fault; and which, as His sacred Majesty of England in the true sense of Honor of his Mother doth abhor, and will punish; so he expects his concurrence in vindicating a Sister of so happy memory, and by whom so near an union and continued League of Amity hath been produced between the Families and Kingdomes.*

A most false scandalous charge of that which never entred into our thoughts, So that we beleive there never was a more unworthy Act done by any Prince, so to betray His Trust and people to a forraigne Nation, by incensing them with such an odious slander to the shame of his owne Mother.

Which we repeat the rather, because when we declared our Intelligence that *Cockeran* was sent into *Denmarke* to procure forces thence, *The King* disfavoured it, calling it a vile Scandall, in his answer to our Declaration of the 22 of October. 1642.

In the same Instructions to *Cockeran*, He declareth also that He then expected assistance from all his neighbour Princes and Allies, in particular the greatest part of the States Fleet from *Holland*, whither he confessed hee had then sent the Queen.

He might also have added that with the Queen, contrary to his trust, he had sent the antient Jewells of the Crowne of *England* (of a very vast value) to be pawned or sold for Ammunition and Armes, of which we had certaine knowledge before we tooke up Armes.

Neither had we so much as once asked the setting of the Militia till the Queen was going into *Holland*.

And it may be remembred that many months before the voyage to *Holland*, She was going beyond Sea, had nor our motions to the King stayed her (And that among other reasons given) because

wethen also heard, she had packed up the Crown Jewells and Plate, by which we might see what was then also intended by that journey had we not preveated it till the Winter.

But at *Burrough Briggs* (before the Earle of *Straffords* death) the Officers were told the King would pawn his Jewells for them, and the French were promised to assist them.

All this and much more yet to be said maketh us stand amazed at the Kings Solemne Protestations, so often made, Calling God to witnesse and revenge it also, if he had any thought of bringing up the Northerne Army, or of Leavying Forces to wage Warre with his Parliament, or to invade the Rights of his Subjects, or of bringing in forraigne Forces or ayds from beyond Sea which (as himselfe saith) in His Declarations would not onely bury this Kingdome in suddaine distrustion and ruine, But His owne Name and Posterity in perpetuall scorne and Infamy.

Yet at very first when Himselfe and the Lords made such a Protestation at *Torke* against Leavying Forces, He commanded his Subjects by Proclamation to resseist the Orders of Parliament: And had signed that most illegal Commission of Array, And did privately contrive the getting out of the Stores, Ships or otherwise such Ordnance, Powder shot and Ammunition, as could be possibly got and provided, for which we can produce a Letter of 20. *June 1642.* under his own hand.

hand, to Sir *John Heydon* Lieutenant of the Ordnance to convey it secretly in Ballast of Ships, and required Subscriptions for Plate, Horses, and Armes, And had also raised such Guards of Horse and Foote about him, that by them He did not onely abuse our Committees sent unto him, Beate our publique Officers and Messengers, protect notorious Papists, Traytors or Felons, such as *Beckwith* and others from the *Posse Comitatus*, But also with those Guards, Cannons and Armes from beyond Sea, did attempt to force *Hull* in an Hostile manner, and that within few dayes after that solemne Protestation at *York*,

It was not long before he proclaimed us Rebels and Traitors, setting up his standard against the Parliament, which never any King of *England* did before himself.

Nor did ever any but King *Charles* set up a mock Parliament at *Oxford*, or any other place, to oppose and protest against the Parliament of *England* which himself and both houses had continued by Act of Parliament.

And when he had made those pretended members at *Oxford* to falsifie their faith and trust they owed to this Kingdome, finding that by them he could not carry on his own pernicious designs, he derided their meeting in a letter to the Queen and called them a mungrell Parliament, whereby his own party may perceive what reward they must expect when they have done their utmost to

shipwrack their faith and conscience to his will and Tyranny, and for calling in of forreigne forces, besides that which we have said already; it is very well known by his own Letters taken at *Naseby*, and the Lord *Digbys* Cabinet, what negotiations he hath long had in all States round about us; we have also remaining with us an authentick Copy of his Commission for calling over tenne thousand of the Irish Rebels to subdue this Paliament, the disloyall and Rebellious City of *London* (as he calleth it) and for this purpose (expresly against an Act of Paliament) he made a pacification first, and since a Peace with those most cruell bloody Rebels; on such odious shamefull, and unworthy conditions, that himself blushed to own or impart them to his own Lieutenant the Earl of *Ormond*, but a private commission was made to the Lord *Herbert* (called Earle of *Glamorgan*) commanding him to manage it with all possible Secrecie.

And for letting us see this secret commission (which was taken at *Sligo*) the said Lord did endure a specious confinement.

Neither do we by this time wonder he should forget his Vows and Protestations, that he would never consent (upon whatsoever pretence) to a toleration of the Popish profession, or abolition of the Lawes then in force against Recusants, with most solemne imprecations that God would so deale with him and his, as he continued in such professions.

professions, and inviolably kept those Ptotestations, notwithstanding about the very same time, it appeares by Letters under his own hand to the Queen and the Earl of *Ormond*, that he would consent to the taking away all Penall Lawes against Papiſts both in *England* and *Ireland*.

And also we had sufficient notice and proofs of most of these things before, notwithstanding all his breach of trust with the Protestants in *France*, *Scotland*, *Ireland* and this Kingdome, which (besides all other oppressions by unjust Prerogative) he hath so often endeavoured to enslave by *Germane*, *Spanish*, *French*, *Lorraine*, *Irish*, *Danish*, and other forreign forces, yet so really, we sought his own as well as the Kingdomes Peace and happinesse, that after so many denyalls we made this last application so just and honourable, that we cannot but now conclude he hath wholly forgotten not only his duty to the Kingdome, but also the care and respect he owes to himself and his own family.

These are some few of the many reasons why we cannot repose any more trust in him, and have made those former resolutions, yet we shall use our utmost endeavours to settle the present government, as may best stand with the Peace and happinesse of this Kingdome.

FINIS.





